

The  
**Annual Report**  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
to the  
**Liskeard Rural  
District Council**  
for the Year  
**1937.**



# **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LISKEARD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

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Medical Officer of Health—

Dr. E. S. Toogood, Golden Bank, Liskeard.

The following Medical Practitioners act as part-time District Medical Officers and/or as Public Vaccinators:—

Dr. A. G. Aitken	...	...	Callington.
Dr. W. H. King	...	...	Fowey.
Dr. A. McCloy	...	...	Polperro.
Dr. B. B. Metcalfe	...	...	Liskeard.
Dr. L. Moran	...	...	Looe.
Dr. O. R. Smale	...	...	Pensilva.

Sanitary Inspector	}	Mr. G. Rogers, A.R.S.I., Liskeard.
Meat and Food Inspector		
Milk and Dairy Inspector		
Building Surveyor		



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*To the Chairman and Members  
of the  
Liskeard Rural District Council*

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GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to present my Report on the Health of the Rural District of Liskeard for 1937.

The year has been a satisfactory one so far as notifiable infectious diseases are concerned. In the early months there were many cases of influenza, and several cases of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified, but no disease reached epidemic proportions and the Schools were not seriously affected by the absence of scholars by reasons of the usual diseases of adolescence. Our District has been very well served by Liskeard Cottage Hospital, patients from almost every part of the area having been admitted.

The St. John Ambulance Association has again done excellent work: our gratitude is due to all the members of the Local Divisions, not only for the work they have carried out but also for the time they have given in keeping themselves efficient to carry out first aid to any case to which they may be called. The work that is done is entirely voluntary.

Generally speaking the position as regards unemployment has shown a slight improvement during 1937. It is true there were slightly more agricultural workers unemployed, but these were men of riper years whom it is increasingly hard to place in employment.

It is a pleasure to record that the remuneration of the District Nurses has been increased to a uniform



standard. The work that these Nurses do is inestimable and I cannot speak too highly of those who work in our Rural District.

### Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area of the District	...	...	104,851 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population (Midsummer, 1937)	...	...	13,410
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1937 according to Rate Books	...	...	4,646
Rateable Value of the District	...	...	£34,833
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£156

### Social Conditions.

Agriculture and Dairy Farming are the chief industries carried on in the district. We have no industries in our Rural District which are prejudicial to health.

### Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS—		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	137	64	73
Illegitimate	...	7	2	5
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	10.73
Birth-rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	14.9
STILL BIRTHS—		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	7	3	4
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		...	...	46.3
DEATHS—		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
		193	99	94
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	...	14.39
Death-rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	12.4
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES—				
Puerperal Sepsis	...	0	0	0
Other Puerperal causes	..	2	0	2
DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE—				
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	41.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	...	43.79
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	...	0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	25
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	0

### Chief Causes of Death.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Influenza .. ..	10	4	6
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	10	7	3
Diabetes .. ...	2	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ..	11	6	5
Heart Diseases ... ..	47	23	24
Other Circulatory Diseases	9	2	7
Bronchitis . ...	13	9	4
Pneumonia ... ..	4	2	2
Peptic Ulcer .. ...	1	1	0
Appendicitis ... ..	3	2	1
Other Liver Diseases ..	2	0	2
Other Digestive Diseases ..	3	2	1
Nephritis (Acute and Chronic)	13	9	4
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth ...	2	0	2
Senility .. ...	7	0	7
Suicide .. ..	2	1	1
Other Violence ... ..	4	2	2
Other Defined Diseases ..	21	15	6

**Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1936.**

**England and Wales,  
London,  
122 Great Towns and  
143 Smaller Towns.**

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales.	122 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	143 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births				
Live	14. 9	14. 9	15. 3	13. 3
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
Deaths				
All Causes	12. 4	12. 5	11. 9	12. 3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.06
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.03	0.06
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
Notifications				
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	0.18
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 yrs of age	5. 8	7. 9	3. 2	12. 0
Maternal Mortality				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.97	} <i>Not available.</i>		
Others	2.26			
Total	3.23			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality				
Puerperal Sepsis	09.4	} <i>Not available.</i>		
Others	2.17			
Total	3.11			
Notifications				
Puerperal fever	} 13.93	} 17.59	} 11.52	{ 4.15
Puerperal pyrexia				
				{ 14.34



## General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

### Public Health Officers of the Authority.

#### (a) MEDICAL—

##### Medical Officer of Health—

Dr. E. S. Toogood, Golden Bank, Liskeard.

The following Medical Practitioners act as part-time District Medical Officers and/or as Public Vaccinators:—

Dr. A. G. Aitken	...	...	Callington.
Dr. W. H. King	..	...	Fowey.
Dr. A. McCloy	...	...	Polperro.
Dr. B. B. Metcalfe	...	...	Liskeard.
Dr. L. Moran	...	...	Looe.
Dr. O. R. Smale	...	...	Pensilva.

Dr. E. Wordley, of Plymouth, undertakes the pathological examination of material submitted.

County Tuberculosis Officer—Dr. Day,

County Hall, Truro.

#### (b) OTHERS—

Sanitary Inspector	}	Mr. G. Rogers, A.R.S.I., Liskeard.
Meat and Food Inspector		
Milk and Dairy Inspector		
Building Surveyor		

##### Public Analysts of Water—

(a) Chemical, Messrs. Benedict Kitto & Sons, London.

(b) Bacteriological, Mr. Wm. Partridge, Holborn, London.

### **A. Laboratory Facilities.**

No change has been made in the arrangements for the examination and analysis of clinical material, water, milk and foodstuffs.

Milk and pathological examinations are carried out by Dr. E. Wordley, Plymouth. Foodstuffs by the County Analyst.

### **B. Ambulance Facilities.**

These are perfectly satisfactory and adequate. The Ambulance is staffed and driven by members of the Liskeard Division of the St. John Ambulance Association. They undertake the removal of non-infectious cases—accident cases and maternity cases. The total number of cases dealt with during 1937 was 206 and a total mileage of 4,831 miles was covered. First aid was rendered to over 100 cases.

One or more members of the Women's Division accompany the Ambulance when female cases are being removed, and have done so on 65 occasions during 1937.

The work of both the men and women of this organisation is excellent and it is impossible to over-praise their gratuitous work. There is, however, no provision for the removal of infectious cases.

## **Nursing in the Home.**

### **C. General and Maternity.**

Local Nursing Associations provide Nurses who are Certified Midwives in co-operation with the Cornwall County Council. Practically the whole of the Rural District is covered by the work of these Local Associations.

Membership of a Local Association costs only a small sum each year. I recommend very strongly all those in the Rural District who are not already members to approach either the Nurse or Local Secretary without delay.

It is with pleasure that I record the very excellent work carried out by the District Nurses in the area.

### **Infectious.**

The District Nurses are forbidden to undertake the nursing of Infectious diseases, and, except in cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia, there is no provision whatever for nursing infectious cases. The Cornwall County Council may be approached with a view to supplying Nurses for the Puerperal cases mentioned above. Application should be made by the Medical Attendant who is in charge of the case.

### **D. Clinic and Treatment Centres.**

No new Clinics or Treatment Centres have been opened in the Rural District during 1937.

### **E. Hospitals.**

**PUBLIC.**—The Public Assistance Hospital, situated in the Borough of Liskeard, receives cases from the Rural District of Liskeard and elsewhere.

**VOLUNTARY.**—The Passmore Edwards Cottage Hospital, also situated in the Borough of Liskeard, has been used extensively by the inhabitants of the Rural District. This Hospital contains 27 beds (12 general—4 male and 8 female), 5 private wards, 3 emergency beds and 7 cots

298 patients were treated during 1937 and there were 269 out-patients.

194 operations were carried out under anæsthetics.

In-patients were received from the following Districts in the Rural area:—

Liskeard Parish R.D., Menheniot, St. Cleer, St. Neot, St. Keyne, Pensilva, Duloe, St. Pinnock, Quethiock, Tremar Coombe, Merrymeet, St. Ive, Dobwalls, Lanreath, Doublebois, Common Moor, Pelynt, Boconnoc, Pengover, Minions, Darite, Crows Nest, East and West Taphouse.



*Section C.***Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.****1. (i) Water—**

Schemes for the improvement of the Water Supplies generally throughout the District have been prepared and regular gaugings have been taken of the flow of water from numerous sources likely to be used for various villages.

Where definite schemes have been put in hand details are given below :—

**POLRUAN.**—The bore hole, sunk to a depth of 87 feet at Veverly during 1936, was utilised during the summer of 1937 in order to maintain a supply to Polruan. Although the supply to the town was materially increased it was realised at the end of the year that the amount of water was not sufficient and that other sources would have to be obtained in order to maintain an adequate supply. Sources at Trethake Mill were investigated for this purpose.

**SEATON.**—Arrangements were made during the year for a water main to be laid at Seaton and connected to the main at present supplying Downterry. By means of this all houses in the village, previously without a good supply, had ample provision made for them.

**TREMAR.**—The scheme prepared for supplying Tremar with water was forwarded to the Ministry of Health in 1937, and on the 23rd April a Public Enquiry was held. After the approval of the Ministry was obtained a tender of £842 10s. od. was accepted and the work was put in hand.

The necessary intake tanks were constructed and the mains laid through the village. By the end of the year all the houses in Tremar were supplied, either by service or stand pipe.

**PENSILVA.**—Delay in the preparation of a scheme for the supply of water to this village occurred in 1937, when it was found that for a short period a supply of water from the adit at Pontius Peace was less than that required by the village. Other sources in that vicinity were investigated and regular gaugings were taken.

Some difficulty has been experienced with regard to the ownership of the second source, but as soon as terms have been arranged the original scheme will be amended in order to include the additional water required.

**DOBWALLS.**—Similar difficulties arose in connection with this scheme and the source above the village has had to be abandoned as being insufficient. Two other sources have been investigated and the one proving most economical and adequate will be utilised.

**PELYNT, COMMON MOOR, PENGOVER and MERRY-MEET.**—The Council, having decided to promote schemes for the supply of water to these villages, has given instructions for likely sources to be regularly gauged, and in due course it is expected that schemes will be drawn up on the most economical lines.



POLPERRO, KILLIGARTH, ST. NEOT and ST. CLEER.—All these schemes have been satisfactory during the year and have maintained a good supply of water to the inhabitants.

### **(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.**

At Polruan a length of 400 feet of 6-inch cast-iron sewer was laid at Townsend Hill, in order to replace the original pipes which were found to be defective.

POLPERRO SEWERAGE.—The preparation of this scheme was completed during the year, and on August 18th a Public Enquiry was held. In due course the approval of the Ministry of Health was obtained and a tender of £6,422 10s. 7d. was accepted. By the end of the year materials were on order in readiness to commence work in the early part of 1938.

Sewers and sewerage work in other parts of the District have been maintained satisfactorily throughout the year.

At Duloe, the private sewer owned by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners was taken over by the Council, and it is expected that a sewage disposal works will be constructed at the outfall.

## **2. Rivers and Streams (Pollution).**

No extensive action has been taken under this heading, but where it has been found that house drainage has been allowed to enter streams in a crude state, owners have been induced to provide septic chambers and filter beds as a form of purification.

### **3. (i) Closet Accommodation.**

Although the number of pail and earth closets in the rural district predominates, each year many of these are replaced by the water carriage system. In practically every new house erected water closets are installed.

Closets of the priven middy type are condemned whenever inspected, and owners are induced to replace these by water closets, or by pail or earth closets where a piped supply of water is not available.

### **(ii) Public Cleansing.**

The methods of refuse collection in the larger villages in the District are as follows:—

Polruan	..	By contract, full time.
Bodinnick	...	By contract, part time.
Whitecross	...	By contract, part time.
Polperro	...	By contract, Summer, full time. Winter, part time.
Menheniot	..	Monthly collections.
Merrymeet	..	Quarterly collections.
Pengover	...	Quarterly collections.
Pensilva	...	Monthly collections.
Dobwalls	...	Monthly collections.
Doublebois	...	Monthly collections.

The disposal of the refuse is by dumping in disused quarries and other suitable sites. When possible, the refuse is covered with soil, but the system generally cannot be considered to be satisfactory.

A system for the general refuse collection throughout the District is very desirable, together with adequate means of disposing of the refuse by incineration or controlled tipping.

It is hoped that the Council will agree to this suggestion provided that it is economically possible.

### **(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

During 1937 special attention was given to the inspection of houses suitable for occupation by the working classes and numerous sanitary defects were remedied and the houses rendered fit as a result of notices served on the owners.

In each case the rooms were measured and statements as to the permitted number for each cottage were given to the owners whenever requested.

Complaints as to the nuisances were investigated and in each case they were remedied after the service of an informal notice.

Slaughter houses in the District were regularly inspected and in several instances it was necessary to improve the sanitary conditions.

The inspection of Cowsheds and Dairies has been continued under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and where defects were found in the premises notices were served on the occupiers.

Details of various inspections and work carried out are contained in the following table:—

1.	Number of Inspections of Dwelling houses	...	246
2.	Number of Informal Notices issued	... ..	61
3.	Number of Statutory Notices issued	... ..	0
4.	Notices complied with (others receiving attention)		45
5.	Nuisances abated	... ..	21
6.	Premises made fit	... ..	45
7.	Number of defects remedied in 5 and 6	... ..	137
8.	New water closets erected	... ..	63
9.	Privies converted to pail and earth closets	...	31
10.	Private wells cleaned and repaired	... ..	10

### **(iv) Shops.**

A number of inspections of Shop premises were made under the Shops Act, 1934, but it was not found necessary to take action in any case.

### **(v) Smoke Abatement.**

No action was found necessary in connection with the above in 1937.

### **(vi) Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are no swimming baths or pools in the area.

### **(vii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

No action has been required under this heading in connection with Council or Private houses. The absence of congested slum areas in the District being largely responsible.

#### 4. Schools.

The various Schools in the District have been inspected and it was found that the existing sanitary conditions were, under the circumstances, satisfactory. Improvement can only be made when water and drainage schemes have been completed.

### Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

#### 1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of Inspections.</i>	<i>Number of Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted.</i>
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	4	0	0
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries) ...	22	2	0
Workplaces (other than Out- workers' Premises) ...	14	0	0
Total	40	2	0

#### 2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

*Number of Offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted ... 0*  
*Particulars.* *Number of Defects.*

	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—</i>			
Want of Cleanliness ...	1	1	0
Want of Ventilation ..	0	0	0
Overcrowding ... ..	0	0	0
Want of Drainage of Floors	0	0	0
Other Nuisances ... ..	0	0	0
<i>Sanitary Accommodation—</i>			
Insufficient ... ..	1	1	0
Unsuitable or Defective ...	0	0	0
Not Separate for Sexes ...	0	0	0
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts—</i>			
Illegal Occupation of Under- ground Bakehouses (s. 101)	0	0	0
Other Offences ... ..	0	0	0
Total	2	2	0

### Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

NIL.



*Section D.***Housing.**

Continuing the effort to meet the housing needs of the working classes in the District, the Council commenced building a further 42 houses, 18 of which have been completed. In addition to these, contracts have also been accepted for another 16, which will be commenced early in 1938.

It was found from the Survey, carried out in 1936, that there were 14 cases of overcrowding existing in the Rural District. Efforts have been made during the year to deal with these cases and 12 of them have received attention. The Council has provided two houses to accommodate two of the families and is erecting a further three houses for the same purpose. In another two cases the overcrowding was abated by the owners providing additional rooms, and five other families found suitable accommodation after being notified that they were overcrowded. Provision is being made to accommodate the remaining two families by erecting houses of suitable size.

The Council has continued its work under the Housing Rural Workers' Act and, in all, 32 schemes were approved in 1937. The number of buildings completed under the Act was 15 and the amount of the grants given in connection with these premises totalled £1,500. One of the reasons for the small amount of overcrowding in the Rural District is undoubtedly due to the fact that a considerable number of houses have had additional accommodation provided under this Act. At the present time one house in every twenty of the housing-class type has been re-modelled on modern lines with the assistance of these grants and the benefits derived by the occupiers has been considerable.

Private building has been carried on and the Council approved 41 new buildings to be erected, whilst a total of 38 were completed.

As might be expected there is a tendency for the coastal areas to be developed at a greater rate than inland sites and the majority of the plans submitted were for buildings within a mile of the coast line.

*1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	246
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	301



(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	236
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					281
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..	...	...	...		6
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation						71
2. <i>Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices :—</i>						
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	...	...	...	...		55
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—</i>						
A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	..				0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...		0
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...					0
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...					1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...		0
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...					1
C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made or undertakings given by owners	..	...	...	...		6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...		0
D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...					0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...					0

4. *Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV,—Overcrowding:—*

(a).—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	4
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...				4
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...				30
(b)—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...		1
(c)—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...		11
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...				72
(d)—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...			nil
(e).—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	...	nil

*Section E.*

**Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

**(a) Milk Supply.**

The inspection of farm premises, consisting of cowsheds and dairies, has been continued during 1937 and, when satisfactory, they have been registered together with the occupiers. If the premises have not reached the standard required notices have been served upon the occupiers stating the work necessary to be carried out.

During recent years there has been a steady improvement in the construction and maintenance of cowsheds and dairies. This improvement was well maintained during 1937.

As was to be expected, several producers made application for accredited licenses, and practically all the premises were visited by the Sanitary Inspector—together with the County Council officials. Where improvements had to be carried out both authorities have agreed as to the work necessary and in this way a definite standard has been reached.

**(b) Meat and other Foods.**

There were 25 applications made for re-licensing of slaughter houses in the District and all the applications were granted. Inspection of the premises were carried out during the year.

Also, 79 application for licenses to slaughter animals were made and these were also granted.

In the Rural District considerable efforts have been made to carry out as many inspections as possible of animal carcasses intended for human consumption, but owing to the scattered nature of the District and the comparatively large amount of occasional slaughtering which is carried on, and also the fact that most of the 25 slaughter houses kill on the same days, it will be appreciated that a large number of the carcasses cannot be inspected.

It may be said, however, that in spite of this, the quality and condition of the meat consumed in the Rural District is reasonably good.

The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected and the proportion of unsound meat found.

#### **Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.**

		Cattle ex- cluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	...	not known			not known	
Number inspected	...		95		82	591
All diseases except tuberculosis.						
whole carcasses condemned	...		1		1	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...		3		0	3
Percentage of the number suspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	... ..		4.21		1.219	.846
<hr/>						
TUBERCULOSIS only—						
Whole carcasses condemned	...		0		0	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...		0		0	46
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tubercu- losis	... ..		0		0	8.46

Unfortunately, a Meat Marking Scheme, under Part iii of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, is not in force.

#### **(c) Adulteration, etc.**

No action has been necessary under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, nor under the Artificial Cream Act, 1929, nor under the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, nor under the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, nor under the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 and 1927.

**(d)** The County Analyst carries out any Chemical or Bacteriological Examinations of Food that may be necessary.



**(e) Nutrition.**

Extra milk is available at most of the Schools in the area for any or all of the children, but it has not been necessary for films or lectures to be given.

**(f) Shellfish (Molluscan).**

There are no shellfish beds nor layings in the area.

## **Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.**

There was a slight increase in the number of notifiable infectious diseases notified during 1937, as compared with 1936 (which was the lowest number recorded). There was a total of 35 as compared with 27 in 1936. The increase was due to 13 cases of pneumonia—most of which occurred in the early months of the year. There were no serious outbreaks in the Schools, and the Rural District enjoyed good health during the period under review.

We have no Isolation Hospital should an epidemic occur, and the most that it is possible to do at present, immediately an infectious case is notified, is to supply each household with detailed instructions as to personal protection and house isolation.

The Medical Officer of Health receives each week during any epidemic in the schools of the area, reports from the head teachers, stating the nature of the epidemic, the number of scholars affected, and the number excluded as contacts. Far more use than is possible at present could be made of these reports if isolation facilities were available.

In the early part of the year I reported to the Council that artificial immunisation against diphtheria was available, and advised its use. There was practically no response from the general public.

### **Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.**

Disease.			Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	...	...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	..	8	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	1	0	0
Enteric Fever (inc. Paratyphoid)			0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia		..	2	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	13	0	4
<i>Other diseases generally notifiable.</i>					
Erysipelas	...	...	3	0	0



### An Analysis of the Total Notified Cases under Age Groups.

	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-& over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	1	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	8
Diphtheria ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pneumonia...	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	1	6	0	13
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2

### Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, nor under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of Blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

### Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925 (relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

#### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
15 ..	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
25 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ..	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	—
45 ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
and upwards								
Totals	3	4	—	1	8	2	—	—

During 1937 there was one death from tuberculosis which had not been previously notified, giving a ratio of 1 in 10, but I am satisfied that the Notification of Tuberculosis in the area is thorough and satisfactory. It has not been necessary to take any action in cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

The County Tuberculosis Officer is always available for consultation with the doctor concerned. Pathological specimens are examined and a diagnostic X-ray plant is in use at Tehidy Sanatorium. The County Tuberculosis Officer attends each month at Lamellion House, Liskeard, for the periodic survey of cases in the area.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. S. TOOGOOD, M.A. Oxen, M.R.C.S.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Golden Bank, Liskeard.



